

LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Fire Tests

DATE OF MEETING: October 17-18, 1996

PLACE: Adam's Mark Hotel, Charlotte, NC

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: See attached.

COMMISSION ATTENDEE: James F. Hoebel, Engineering Sciences

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: James F. Hoebel *James F. Hoebel*

SUMMARY: This was a regular scheduled meeting of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Technical Committee on Fire Tests.

The NFPA Staff Liaison provided draft minutes of this meeting, that are attached.

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared
10/18/96
No Mfrs/PrvtLbrs or
Products Identified
____ Excepted by _____
____ Firms Notified,
Comments Processed.



MINUTES

NFPA Technical Committee on Fire Tests
October 17-18, 1996 Meeting
Charlotte, North Carolina

1. **Called to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Chair Jesse Beitel at 8:10 a.m. on Thursday, October 17, 1996 at the Adam's Mark Hotel, Charlotte, North Carolina.

2. **Introduction of Attendees.** Attendees introduced themselves. Present were:

MEMBER

Jesse Beitel, Chair

Walter Sterling, Staff Liaison

April Berkol

John Blair

William Chien

Tony Crimi
(Alt. to J. Roberts)

William Fitch

James Hoebel
(Nonvoting)

Marcelo Hirschler

Alfred Hogan

Karl Houser

James Lawson

REPRESENTING

Hughes Associates, Inc.

Nat'l Fire Protection Assn.

ITT Sheraton Corp.
REP. American Hotel &
Motel Association

The DuPont Company
REP. Society of the Plastics
Industry Inc.

State of NY Fire Prevention
& Control

Underwriters' Laboratories of
Canada

Omega Point Laboratories Inc.

U. S. Consumer Product Safety
Commission

GBH Int'l

Reedy Creek Improvement
District REP. Fire Marshals
Association of North America

Gypsum Association

US Nat'l Institute of
Standards and Technology-Ctr.
for Fire Research

William Metes

Underwriters' Labs Inc.

John Michener

Milliken Research Corp.
REP. American Textile
Mfrs. Institute Inc.

James Milke

University of Maryland

Gene Paolucci
(Alt. to G. Lingenfelter)

Yasuda Fire & Marine
Insurance Co. of America
REP. American Insurance
Services Group, Inc.

R. Joseph Pearson
(Alt. to G. Meyer)

Inchape Testing Services
NA, Inc.

T. Hugh Talley

Hugh Talley Co.
REP. Upholstered Furniture
Action Council

David Tanaka

Factory Mutual Research
Corp.

William Thornberg
(Alt. to J. G. Willse)

Industrial Risk Insurers

Rick Thornberry

The Code Consortium, Inc.

Robert Wills

American Iron & Steel Inst.

GUESTS

Tim Fox

Iredell Co. Fire Marshals
Office

Bill Ronca

W. R. Grace & Co.

Elaine Thompson

Allied Tube & Conduit

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sam Francis

American Forest & Paper
Association

Thomas Fritz

Armstrong World Industries
Inc.

James Griffith

Southwest Research Institute

Wayne Holmes	HSB Professional Loss Control Inc.
William Koffel	Koffel Associates Inc.
Gerald Lingenfelter	American Insurance Services Group, Inc.
George Meyer	Warnock Hersey, Inc.
James Norris	Union Carbide Corp.
John Roberts (Alt. T. Crimi attended)	Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada
Peter J. Gore Willse (Alt. W. Thornberg attended)	Industrial Risk Insurers

3. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the April 18-19, 1996 meeting were approved as submitted with the following correction: Marcelo Hirschler shall be recorded as a member and not a guest.

4. A97 Report on Comments

A. NEPA 258-Determining Smoke Generation of Solid Materials. No comments were received during the comment period therefore there no committee action was necessary.

B. NEPA 705-Flame Field Test for Textiles and Films. No comments were received during the comment period therefore there no committee action was necessary.

5. F97 Report on Proposals.

A. NEPA 256-Fire Tests of Roof Coverings. One committee proposal was generated. A motion carried to accept by a vote of 16 affirmative, 0 negative and 2 abstentions.

B. NEPA 259-Potential Heat of Building Materials. One committee proposal was generated. A motion carried to accept by a vote of 13 affirmative, 0 negative and 2 abstentions.

C. NEPA 266-Fire Characteristics of Upholstered Furniture Exposed to Flaming Ignition Source. 2 public proposals were received and 10 committee proposals were generated. The committee vote is as follows:

Log #1, reject, 14 affirmative, 1 negative and 5 abstentions
 Log #2, reject, 16 affirmative, 1 negative and 3 abstentions
 CP#1, accept, 14 affirmative, 2 negative and 3 abstentions

CP#2, accept, 16 affirmative, 0 negatives and 2 abstentions
CP#3, accept, 16 affirmative, 0 negatives and 2 abstentions
CP#4, accept, 12 affirmative, 2 negatives and 3 abstentions
CP#5, accept, 17 affirmative, 0 negatives and 2 abstentions
CP#6, accept, 14 affirmative, 2 negatives and 3 abstentions
CP#7, accept, 14 affirmative, 1 negative and 3 abstentions
CP#8, accept, 17 affirmative, 0 negatives and 2 abstentions
CP#9, accept, 18 affirmative, 0 negatives and 2 abstentions
CP#10, accept, 18 affirmative, 0 negatives and 1 abstention

D. NEPA 267-Fire Characteristics of Mattresses and Bedding Assemblies Exposed to Flaming Ignition Source. 8 public proposals were received and one committee proposal was generated. The committee voted as follows:

Log #1, accept in principle in part, 16 affirmative, 1 negative and 2 abstentions
Log #2, reject, 11 affirmative, 1 negative and 8 abstentions
Log #3, accept in part, 15 affirmative, 1 negative and 2 abstentions
Log #4, reject, 16 affirmative, 1 negative and 1 abstention
Log #5, motion for accept, 19 affirmative, 0 negative and 1 abstention
Log #6, accept, 19 affirmative, 0 negatives and 12 abstentions
Log #7, reject, 14 affirmative, 1 negative and 4 abstentions
Log #8, reject, 14 affirmative, 1 negative and 4 abstentions
CP#1, accept, 15 affirmative, 0 negatives and 4 abstentions

Complete actions for Items A through D can be found in the F97 ROP ballot.

E. NEPA 265-Evaluating Room Fire Growth Contribution of Textile Wall Coverings. 6 public proposals were received. The committee determined due to the nature of details associated with the revisions to NFPA 265 a task group needed to be established. The task group will review the proposed changes to the document and application associated with smoke measurements and combustible gases. The task group consists of Marcelo Hirschler, Jesse Beitel and Bill Fitch.

NFPA 265 will be held for the Fall 98 revision cycle. The committee's actions on the 6 public proposals will be recorded for future use. The committee voted as follows:

Log #1, reject, 14 affirmative, 3 negatives and 1 abstention
Log #6, reject, 15 affirmative, 2 negatives and 1 abstention
Log #2, reject, 16 affirmative, 1 negative and 1 abstention
Log #3, reject, 16 affirmative, 1 negative and 1 abstention
Log #4, reject, 15 affirmative, 1 negative and 3 abstentions
Log #5, no action taken, task group study
Log #6, reject, 15 affirmative, 2 negative and 1 abstention

F. **NFPA 270-Determination of Specific Optical Density of Smoke.** 1 public proposal was received. A motion to reject carried by a vote of 10 affirmative, 4 negatives and 6 abstentions. It was determined that NFPA 270 should skip a cycle for review of material associated with the proposed revision. A task group has been established to review this proposal in regards to the comments associated with this document. The task group consists of Marcelo Hirschler and John Blair.

6. **Noncombustibility.**

A. **Noncombustibility Task Group Report.** The committee reviewed the noncombustibility task group report (**Attachment A**). The committee determined to continue the activity of this task group. The following motions were made in regards to the report presented:

1. A white paper should be created. A proposal to be created and sent to the NFPA 220 committee recognizing the acceptance criteria of ASTM E136 using the white paper as the basis for the substantiation carried by a vote of 10 affirmative, 6 negatives and 4 abstentions.

2. Accept the recommendation on the collection of fundamental data on the development of test apparatus that would use an oxygen bomb calorimeter approach with a larger specimen size. Correspondence will be sent to the appropriate individuals associated with the oxygen bomb testing to determine if there is any appropriate data available associated with a larger specimen size.

3. In regards to items 2 and 3 of the report. The committee should continue their work in the respected areas associated with the National Fire Protection Research Foundation Task Group activities on the intermediate scale calorimeter fire test project. The task group should remain active to continue the research and development of test methods to define the ranges of combustibility.

B. **NFPA 273-(formerly NFPA 264B)-Standard for Determining Degrees of Combustibility of Building Materials, F97 revision cycle.** 12 public proposals received and 1 committee proposal was generated. The committee determined that NFPA 273 should be placed on hold until further action from the task group is presented. The appropriate revision cycle for NFPA 273 is pending based on the actions associated with the noncombustibility task group.

7. **Surgical Fire Testing - UL 2154, Update.** Bill Fitch provided an update report. NFPA has circulated through the committee a request for comments which will be forwarded to Underwriters Laboratories in regards to their canvassing for ANSI recognition on this document. Comments received are enclosed for your review (**Attachment B**).

8. Room Test Similar to ISO 9705, Task Groups Update. Information is being developed associated with the development of a room test in regards to the proposal and comments associated with the 1997 edition on NFPA 101. The task group will review the appropriate application and possible relationship to other ASTM documents being currently developed. The task group consists of Rick Thornberry, Marcelo Hirschler, Jesse Beitel and Mark Janssens. The task group has set a tentative meeting date for December, 1996.

9. Role of Fire Tests Committee, Update. Chair, Jesse Beitel commented that he has received responses from the committee members and will summarize the comments and forward them to the committee for their review. There is an ongoing discussion between upper management between the ASTM, UL and NFPA organizations. A full report will be provided at the next committee meeting. Communication will be sent to the Standards Council (agenda item 96-36) to provide them with a status report.

10. Other Business.

(A). Documents Entering A98 Revision Cycle. Proposal closing date January 17, 1998.

NFPA 260- Cigarette Ignition Resistance of Components of Upholstered Furniture. Review assignment to Bill Metes.

NFPA 261-Mock-Up Upholstered Furniture Material Assemblies to Ignition by Smoldering Cigarettes. Review assignment to Bill Metes.

NFPA 262-Fire and Smoke Characteristics of Wires and Cables. Review assignment to John Blair.

NFPA 263-Heat and Visible Smoke Release Rates for Materials and Products. Review assignment to Carl Houser.

NFPA 271-Heat and Visible Smoke Release Rates for Materials and Products Using an Oxygen Consumption Calorimeter. Review assignment to Marcelo Hirschler.

NFPA 272-Heat Release Rates fro Upholstered Furniture Components or Composites and Mattresses Using an Oxygen Consumption Calorimeter. Review assignment to John Blair.

NFPA 285-Evaluation of Flammability Characteristics of Exterior Non-load Bearing Wall Assemblies Containing Combustible Components Using the Intermediate Scale Multistory Test Apparatus. Comment review assignment Jesse Beitel.

(B) NFPA 701, Fire Tests for Flame-Resistant Textiles and Films. The Standards Council has granted an accelerated revision cycle for this

document. Review has been assigned to John Michener. John will be sending some questions in regards to the revisions to the 1996 edition of NFPA 701 for committee comment.

The committee discussed the TIA which will be balloted through the committee on revisions to Section A-2.4.2, NFPA 701, 1996 ed., in regards to the listing of manufacturers of cabinets.

(C) Data for Performance Based Calculations. Jim Milke provided an overview for committee consideration on establishing a task group to review and accumulate data for performance-based calculations in regards to fire resistance assemblies and fire modeling. The task group will review the role of this committee in regards to the fire modeling and performance-based activities, and review thermal calculations. The responsibility of the task group is to evaluate the position/role of the Fire Tests committee in relationship to other organizations and countries in regards to being done with performance criteria on property data and calculation models. The task group will be surveying literature available for research data which includes thermal transmissions and structural stability. Actions of this task group could be used for inclusion into NFPA 251 for information. The task group consists of Jim Milke, Rick Thornberry and Jesse Beitel. The task group will highlight a work plan, scope, overview and possible contacts with other organizations.

(D) CPSC and Upholstered Furniture Testing. Jim Hoebel provided an overview of recent activities in the CPSC in regards to small flame testing of upholstered furniture. The CPSC had reviewed the original petition from NASFM which contained 3 separate issues addressing ignition of upholstered furniture. The petition for a large open flame test which involved TB 133 and parts of TB 117 and also the cigarette portion ignition of upholstered furniture which involved with TB 117 and the British Standard were held for further investigation. The CPSC is proceeding in the development of a test method for a small flame ignition source for upholstered furniture. An open discussion followed highlighting the procedures and explanation of how fire test standards are submitted to the Fire Tests Committee. It was noted the Fire Tests committee could assist in developing the test method and the Life Safety Committee could review it for pass/fail criteria and then it could be forwarded to the CPSC for their appropriate use. Proposed Bench Scale Test Method using a small open flame source is included as Attachment C.

(E) Standard Management. The committee discussed the revisions cycles for the upcoming standards in regards to the management of standards in regards to Standards Administration activity. The committee determined that all documents should be placed in a 3 year cycle. The applicable standards should be coordinated with those documents that are referencing them such as the Life Safety Code and the Building Codes.

(F) Above Ground Storage Tanks. This is a follow-up to an ongoing activity associated with the testing of above ground storage tanks. Currently the NFPA 30 and 30A committee is in a revision process of their documents. Chair Jesse Beitel will coordinate the necessary action with the Standards Council in regards to the issue associated with fire testing of tanks and the appropriate roles of the committees in regards to this activity.

11. Next Meeting. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday-Friday, October 17-18, 1997 in Chicago, IL.

12. Adjournment. The meeting was recessed at 5:00 p.m. on October 17th and reconvened at 8:07 on October 18 and was adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Walter Sterling, Staff Liaison